

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Application No.: 09/992,211

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: EXPANDABLE CANNULA



Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-003-2

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: M. Thaler

Q3  
# 7/c  
7-30

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231  
BOX AMENDMENT- FEE

RECEIVED  
JUL 29 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-entitled application.

In the Specification

Please amend the following identified paragraph to read as follows. A marked-up copy of this paragraph showing additions and deletions is attached hereto.

Page 1, Before Line 1 (added in Preliminary Amendment)

C1  
This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/470,142 filed June 6, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,338,730). The aforementioned application Serial No. 08/470,142 is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/254,368 filed June 6, 1994 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,573,517). The aforementioned application Serial No. 08/254,368 is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/013,942 filed February 4, 1993 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,320,611). The benefit of the earlier filing dates of the aforementioned U.S. patent application Serial Nos. 08/470,142; 08/254,368; and 08/013,942 is hereby claimed for all subject matter common to this application and the aforementioned applications.